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## THE AMATEUR CANDIDATE.

Bu Our Special Reporter.



imprisonment, excessive agreeable company, while I so conscientiously worked up the part with which I was entrusted, that I was released, with the utmost difficulty, from the kind care and select establishment of my Keeper.

with which was entriesed, that I was released, with the utmost disculty, from the kind care and select establishment of my Keeper.

As an Amateur Weisher, too (when the Public wanted a view of Welshing "from within"—that is, from the outside of the Ring), I have been chivied, beaten, duoked, and three-quarters killed. But when you, Mr. Punch, requested me to disguise myself as a Red Candidate, and to woo the caresses of the Mob—I mean one of the Patent New Constituencies—I confess that I almost shrank from the task. Every man has his soft place, and mine is a disinclination to be "mixed up," as they say, with Politics. Amateur Lunacy, Amateur Welshing, I can stand, but, as an educated man, I confess that from Politics I have an instinctive shrinking. However, professional pride came to my aid, and I undertook to do what you desired.

My orders were to disguise myself as an Extremist of the most incredible principles. Some days spent in study of Mr. Hewre George, and of the address and rebuke which the Ripon Liberal Association presented to Mr. Goschen, completed my political education. I was next introduced to an intelligent tradesman, a Rateatcher, who had great influence with the Extreme Six Hundred of

ASSOCIATION presented to Mr. COSCHEN, completed my political education. I was next introduced to an intelligent tradesman, a Ratestcher, who had great influence with the Extreme Six Hundred of the Slums and District. My opponent, I should say, in the affections of the Constituency was an opulent dealer in Antiquities, chiefly old clothes—Mr. IKEY Mo. My object, of course, was to overbid this capitalist in my political offers. I got on very well with the influential Rateatcher, who was, by descent, a scion of an island "notable for its verdure and its wrongs." Home Rule,—the sooner the better,—paid Members for Ireland, the restitution of landed property to the descendants of its true heirs, evicted under Briand Bord, were attractive planks on my platform. I had afterwards to modify some of the planks, and portion out the land to the denizens of the Slums, rent-free; but that was only one of a series of progressive modifications. Political education, when you are a Candidate, is exceedingly rapid.

My friendly Rateatcher, Mr. Brallaghan, then gave the names and addresses of the Extreme Six Hundred, with whom lay the choice between Mr. Mo and myself. To my astonishment, I only received one hundred and thirty names.

"Why, where are the other four hundred and seventy?" I inquired.

"There sin't we make of the names and the sin't a make of the names." each Mr. Brallaghan.

together. When my hospitality had softened the Roman virtue of this politician, I asked him, once more, why there were only one hundred and thirty men in the famous Six Hundred. But I only gathered from him that these patriots could not afford to be more numerous. "It won't run to it, Sir," he added, with a wink.

"But how are you appointed?" I inquired.

"Why, thirty of us met in this 'ere public, and every cove brought in a friend, or a brother-in-law or two, and 'ere we is, all snug and comfortable."

No other explanation was offered, and I set out to win the promises of the Extreme Association Six Hundred, or rather, "all that was left of them, left of Six Hundred." These earnest men had the power of choosing the Extreme Candidate for the whole constituency; no other need apply; they were, in brief, the Constituency itself, for an "Oligarch" has a poor chance in the Slums.

Well, Sir, I went about amount the Extreme One Hundred and Thirty. I promised everything I thought attractive: disestablishment of everybody, Home Rule, the Royal Family on board wages, reduction of the Army; they all said the Navy was reduced enough already. I proposed to make Professor Farexan Vicercy of India, and I kept repeating that remark about "unabated loyalty to the fortunate Statesman, who still so happily controls the destinies of the Empire,"—what there is of it. I would make Lord Wolfself withdraw from the Soudan; and if he couldn't withdraw, why, I would leave him there. These pledges, however, were received without enthusiasm. They had already been swallowed by Mr. Ikwx Mo, and the electors appeared but little interested. The Fishmongers bade me swear to support Billingsgate. The Greengrocers urged me to rally round Covent Garden. The Butchers insisted that it must be made penal to sell Australian meat, except at a reduction to the Trade, who could dispose of it as native produce. All demanded the disestablishment of the Civil Service Stores. These pledges I took, and I began to have a horrid apprehension that I might be sit for the Slums.

that I might be the chosen of the Extreme Six Hundred, and might ait for the Slums.

The night approached when the Six Hundred were to meet, and choose between me and Mr. Mo. I went round to my supporters, beginning with the Ratcatcher.

"You will be there, Mr. Brallashaw," I said. "I rely on you."

"Well, you see, Sir, my 'art' is with you, but these is 'ard times, and a Plumber, as works with me, has turned down a lot o' rats in an 'ouse in Bedford Square, and I'm to have the job that very night."

"But you won't let profit stand between you and your duty to your country?"

"Well, Sir, I'm a family man, and chances is searce,—ourious how rare rats is, just now; 'ard times, Sir. A couple o' pounds, now, would see me 'armless," and Mr. Brallasham looked hard at me.

"But that is Bribery and Corruption, Sir," I said, hastily.

Whereupon this leading politician made some remark about 'Stowing my blooming gammon." As he was attended by his bull-dogs, I hastily withdrew, and looked up my other supporters in the Six Hundred. It was the same story everywhere. One had to carry a banner in the "Britannieroxton," another had a pal's place as anb-tout, a third actually told me he "'ad a crib to crack down Norwood way;" everyone, in short, had some lucrative engagement which prevented him from being present at the meeting of the Extreme Six Hundred. My political education had not advanced so far as they hoped, and I did not "see them 'armless." Next morning I read, in the papers, that Mr. Mo was the Red Candidate for the Slums, and the chosen of the Six Hundred.

You will receive, Sir, the bill for my expenses, which, as you will perceive, were considerable.

perceive, were considerable.

## WOLF!

THE Railway Ogre is hungrily agape for another mouthful.

Fe! fi! fo! fum!

I spy a nook in an East End slum,

A place where of old they buried their dead,

I'll snap it up to make my bread.

Sings the Ogre—alias the London Tilbury and Southend Railway. And so it will, if not prevented. Miss Ogravia Hill, the everyigilant vampire-defler, is, however, on the watch. The Mill Yard Burial Ground, says she, would make a garden or playground. Why then should the Railway Ogre override the Disused Burials Act, so lately passed for the express purpose of dealing with such poor plots in the interest of the poor and not of the monopolists? That question will require a very complete and conclusive answer to bring Mr. Punck or the British Public round to the Fi-fo-fum view of the question. "Why, where are the other four hundred and several inquired.

"There ain't no more of us nowhere," said Mr. Brallachan, "I have have a little possed for the express purpose of doming with such properties of the poor and not of the monopolists? That question will require a very complete and conclusive answer to bring Mr. "Why, Sir, you know it would go round among so many,—and times is bad," said my friend and political Mentor.

"I am sorry, Mr. Brallachan," I replied, "that none of my I am sorry, Mr. Brallachan," I replied, "that none of my I clubs permit members to introduce strangers at luncheon, but may I have the pleasure of offering you refreshment at a more liberal bar?"

He was a little mollified, and we entered the "Seven Tuns"



## THINGS ONE WOULD RATHER HAVE LEFT UNSAID.

Miss Constance. "I I'm so glad you think I 've improved in my Playing of that Nootuene of yours, Here Bemolski! I hope to be Perfect in it next time we meet!"

Herr B. (gallantly), "Ach! Miss Gonsondance! I HOPE VE SHALL MEET BEFORE ZAT!"

## THE RANELAGH AT BARN ELMS.

[The Ranelagh Club has taken Barn Elms, the house in which Tonson received the famous Kit-Cat Club.]

THE Ranelagh hath ta'en Barn Elms, Where anciently assembled
Whigs very famous in these realms,
Before whom Tories trembled.
The Kit-Cat Club held meetings there,
The chiefest of its duties, To fill fresh bumpers to the fair, And toast the reigning beauties.

Here gathered great Dukes of the time,
Here came the Earl of WHARTON,
Here gay Lord HALIFAX would rhyme
In praise of Mrs. BARTON.
Here Congreve, Addison, and Strelle
Were wise as well as witty,
And oft made Jacob Tonson feel Twas better than the City.

Here Garth left patients to their fate, The smartest of physicians; And thus to Steele he'd demonstrate Their relative positions:—
"I've fifteen patients. Why should I,"
He said, "with physic fill them?
For nine, in spite of me, will die;
The six—no man can kill them."

The six—no man can kill them."

Here men would "drink away the night,"
We read in line satiric;
But hearts beat high, and thoughts were bright,
That live in many a lyrie.
"A set of wits," the people said,
But there were few more able,
And mighty Statesmen took the head
Of Jacob Tonson's table.

Those ancient beaux they sang and laughed, Gay men of each profession; And punch and port were duly quaffed To Protestant succession.

They live in quaint Arbuthnot's lay, In KNELLER's famous faces: What will their phantoms think to-day Of polo pony races?

FIRST OF APRIL.—Prince BISMARCK's Birthday. There are exceptions to every rule.

THE OLD DUKE'S WARNING.

An Official Sanctum at the Horse Guards. Indefatigable Commander-in-Chief discovered sleeping steedsly. Enter an Heroic Shade. Indefatigable Commander-in-Chief (waiting suddenly). Come in. (He rises.) Dear me. Dozing again! And no wonder. Talk of twork? Why, since half-past ten this morning, if I've looked into the hundred of these blessed—Heroic Shade. Blunders? Indefatigable Commander-in-Chief (with a start). Good gracious me! Why,—you don't mean to say—that it's—? (Rubs his eyes, Indefatigable Commander-in-Chief (with a start). Why, surely you were getting comfortably settled at Aldershot? If anything's wrong—Figure to sak you. Your Royal Highness seems busy? Heroic Shade. Hat that's caming to the point. Just what I was going to ask you. Your Royal Highness seems busy? Indefatigable Commander-in-Chief. Busy? Well, what with new facings and that row about the feather bonnet, I've known some fanguely. Called out both Reserves, you know. (With confidence.) Planty of men; and splendid stuff too, I can tell you. Heroic Shade hat it is goes a long way,—least, so I found it. No doubt about your denerals? Indefatigable Commander-in-Chief. Well!—hum!—ha! Well, we've one, you know, who, however, just at the present moment, I'm glad,—that is, I mean, I'm sorry to say,—happens to be, so to speak, boxed up—Heroic Shade. On the Retired but not Rescued List? Cut off from his own base, eh? He can't help you. Any others? Indefatigable Commander-in-Chief. To be sure. Lat me see; of course, there's—(Refers to numerous shocts of initialed foolscap, and memonas several names honourably known on the Army List.)

Heroic Shade. Hum! Good men and true, sure enough! Who

"HIS WORD'S AS GOOD AS HIS BOND."



Sullan (at back). "Don't you be appair. It's all right, although I haven't guaranteed it. But it's issued with my entire "Sanction and Authority." Bless you 1"—Vide Mr. Gladstone's Explanation, Thursday, March 26.

On! wherefore came they forth from their Island West by North, With their swords and their guns, and their raiment, gray and

Why Arabi did they rout, and what have they been about, With their money, which is gone, and their heroes, who are dead?

Oh, evil was the root, and bitter is the fruit, And crimson is the dye of the Desert, slaughter-trod; They have not been wise or strong, they have gone exceeding wrong, They who sit in our high places, and rule us with their nod.

They blunder, late or soon, things seem ever out of tune— Now they gather once again for another party shine; And the Grand Old Man is there, with his sparse and silvery hair, And ASHMEAD and Sir MICHAEL, and STAFFY, the benign.

"Why are we ever bored with Egypt and the sword, We who love not Intervention, and who never want to fight?"

So the murmuring breaks ont—will it swell into a shout ?— From the men below the Gangway, upon the Speaker's right.

And hark! like the roar of the surf upon the shore,
The cry of anger rises along the Tory line;
"G. shall not have applause, though persuasively he jaws.
Out on his mad Convention! out on those Millions nine!"

Geess! It's little good to scold. TEWFIX must have the gold, And the SULTAN slily stands just aside—his usual way— And he whispers—cunning fox!—"There's a bit for your strong box; The game has my 'authority,' and so it's sure to pay!"

He looks so smug and meek, though his tongue be in his cheek,
And his fingers rather itch. But need Tewfik greatly reck
When the G. O. M. stands there, so demure and debonair,
And hands him—From the Firm—that most handy "Little
Cheque"?

## OLD FRIENDS AND NEW FACES.

UNDOUBTEDLY the thanks of all Dramatic Authors are due to the Author of The Magistrate for the vindication of the Molierian claim for the right of the Dramatist to do not only what he likes with his own, but with what may be anybody else's. Good.

Mr. Pineno has shown considerable ingenuity in constructing a new building with old materials. The aim of the farce-writer is to



Keeping up their Pecker, or their Pecker keeping them up. feeding the young 'uns at the Court Theatre The Pinero bird

cause laughter, and in this the Author of The Magistrate has been, as it seems to me, thoroughly successful.

Now what are the principal old materials used in The Magistrate?

Now what are the principal old materials used in the house, and evidently believing that he will marry her: this is in Betsy. In The Magistrats nothing comes of it: in Betsy it is of the greatest importance. The concealment of the boy's age from the boy himself also occurs in Betsy. The wife going with her sister, at night, on an errand which she wishes to be kept secret from her husband, occurs in Artful Cards. The stepson taking his stepfather out for a lark when the latter's wife is out of the way, is similar to the nephew taking his uncle out for a lark in Artful Cards. The Colonel returned from India, and desirous of visiting his old haunts, reminded me of the Captain returning from Bengal, and anxious for the same returned from India, and desirous of visiting his old haunts, reminded me of the Captain returning from Bengal, and anxious for the same amusement, in His First Peccadillo, on which, or on its French original with which I am not acquainted, Mr. Boucicaular founded his Forbidden Fruit at the Adelphi. The supping out, after some fashion or other, is common to Le Reveillon, His First Peccadillo, and Pink Dominoes, only that in these pieces the female element at supper is the essential attraction, while in The Magistrats the youth's idea of a lark is supper with his stepfather and another gentleman in a private room of a Leicester Square Restaurant; and even the Colonel from India has no more extensive ideas of "a spree" than to sup tête-à-tête with a stupid young officer in another private room at the above-mentioned Restaurant. Not the properest "Young Person" could object to this. All is so very harmless and correct that as well have been



as well have been an Archbishop; and as it is certain that The Private Secre-The Private Secretary does depend for much of its fun on Mr. Penley's elerical costume, so probably the laughter at The Magistrate would have been doubled, had Mr. CLATION appeared as, say, a Colonial Bishop or South African Archdeacon. But perhaps Mr. Pinere has this character among his reserved. among his reserved

part in a concert; in The Magistrate the delinquents hide under the table and behind the chairs and sofas. In the Third Act of Artful Cards Mr. Toole, as Mr. Spicer Romford, enters in a most dilapidated state, and tells how he has escaped from the Police: so does Mr. ARTHUR CECIL, as Mr. Posket, in The Magistrate.

Some one said to FRANK TALFOURD, "I say, that joke of yours was in your last burlesque."

"My last burlesque!" exclaimed TALFOURD, "my dear fellow, it has been in everyone of my burlesques, and it has always gone admirably."

it has been in everyone of my burlesques, and it has always gone admirably."

Given the ingenious playwright, and then such good old farcical friends as coming down a chimney with a blackened face, hiding in a jam-closet and re-appearing smeared with some preserve, or being concealed and audibly smashing the crockery,—which is immediately attributed to the cat,—sitting on bandboxes, leaving a baby in a chest of drawers, hiding behind a screen, and so forth, will come out again as fresh as ever. Why pay the original Author of one situation in a French piece for permission to introduce it into an English one, when this wealth of old material is at hand gratis? I confess I am delighted with the success of Mr. PINKRO's experiment, for we are returning to the good old days when a farce was called a farce, and not "a farcical comedy," and there are still lots of "bits of business" and comic situations which have not been used in The Magistrate, and, being nobody's property in particular, are only awaiting the arrival of the bold inventor who can serve them up again with a new sauce and plenty of it.

So much for the material. And now comes the vital question, "Does The Magistrate make you laugh, or does it not?"

The answer is,—Yes, it does; and, what is more, the last Act is the best, and the fun, which drops a little about the middle of the Second Act, becomes funnier and funnier towards the finish. This is due, first and foremost to Mr. Pinkho, and then to Mr. Clarton, who, though occasionally evincing a self-consciousness of forcing himself to be comic against his more serious dramatic will, plays his part, on the whole, in the spirit of true comedy; that is, in real earnest. He will be still better when the novelty of his appearing in this sort of part has worn off. On the first night he seemed to entertain a doubt as to how such old comic business as an interchange of hats and hiding under a table or behind a sofa, wouldgo, and so his execution of these humorous manouvres was marked by a certain ahyness and per

change of hats and hiding under a table or behind a sofa, would go, and so his execution of these humorous manœuvres was marked by a certain shyness and perceptible diffidence, as though, in a difficult situation, he were doing his best, but was prepared for the worst.

And Mr. CLATION looked so relieved when, after giving his comic, shiny, curly-brimmed hat to the Swell who couldn't by any possible chance have mistaken it for his own gibus, the andience reared with laughter. He knew then that, if they took to this kindly, they would not turn coldly away from his next great effort in the Third Act, when he would have to appear with a black plaster across his nose, in dishevelled dress and muddy trousers. And he was right; though he came on shyly

though he came on shyly and timidly, quite prepared to apologise and retire, yet they cheered him to the echo, and all was well; for to come on in this miserable plight is always bound to get a laugh; and it always has, since I knew it when I was quite a boy. Mr. Althous Cecil was

very good, and the part will improve in his hands. will improve in his hands. It is long now since he appeared in an adaptation of Le Reveillon; but somehow, whether it was the piece, or his character, or his acting, on the first night, I was forcibly reminded of his first appearance at the Globe.

ance at the Globe.

Mrs. JOHN WOOD has
not by any means so prominent a part as fell to her lot in Young Mrs. Win-throp, when she had the fun all to herself; here it is shared by others. She

forces, which at present there is no necessity to call out. The entry of the Police in Artful Cards, also at the end of Act II., when the Police in Artful Cards, also at the end of Act II., when the gambling-tables are turned into pianos, and all the characters take is shared by others. She than ever."

I sa sared by others. She than ever."

I has to get under a table, where she is joined by Mr. Artful Cecil., whom she pinches. This goes "with a roar"—specially from Mr. Cecil.

Miss Marion Terry was simply admirable. She looked the part and acted it to perfection. Her hunger was catching: her walking off with the tray in the last Act, inimitable. Let her nover play any more dic-away girls or ill-used wives, unless the reason of their dying-away and of their wretchedness is starvation. Mr. Pinero has fitted



Mr. Punch (to Mr. W. Shakspeare).
"Hullo, William! Off again, eh? Bad taste
of our Nineteenth Century public, isn't it?
But you'll take a rest, and turn up fresher
than ever."



ain't much, but for its moral valley, which is anormus, that he opes he'll think it worth having.

Then the late Cheerman is sure to say, for we ears it so offen as we nose it all by art, that its the proudest moment, &c., his feelins overcums him, &c., go down to his posteriority, &c., &c.

Sum on 'em seems to make funny selecahums. I've seen a presentashun made of a lot of knives and forks and spoons, or a set of Dish Kovers, and one honnerable Gent chose a sort of little sideboard. Lor how Brown and me did grin as we brort it in. I think you can judge pretty well of a man's carackter by the Testymousyall he alecta, for of course they all sleets 'em, tho' they do try to look quite surprised when the Sherrymonial takes place. A pompus man now would have a great big French Clock all smeared over with sham gold. A shabby man would have useful domestick artikles, like forks and spoons, or a Warming Pan, a puncahal man would have a big watch, that they calls I think a Barommeter, a tasty Gent would have a Pieter or a Statty, while a Spoony wood naterally have a T. Pot and setterer.

sentahun made of a lot of knives and forks and spoons, or a set of blak Kovers, and one honnerable Gent chose a sort of little sideboard. Lor how Brown and me did grin as we brort it in. I think you can judge pretty well of a man's carackter by the Testymoneyall he got up and went away.

Well, after the speaches was all finished, the gentlemen all selects, for of course they all sleets 'em, the' they do try to look quite surprised when the Sherrymonial takes place. A pompus man now would have a great big French Clock all smeared over with aham gold. A shabby man would have useful domestick artikles, like forks and spoons, or a Warming Pan, a puncahal man would have a big watch, that they calls I think a Barommeter, a tasty Gent would have a Pister or a Statity, while a Spoony wood naterally have a T. Pot and setterer.

What rum things sum on 'em gets' cm for! Sum because they're, so preshus old, as if they could help it, and wouldn't be young if they could. Sum because they 're bin such a jolly long time a doin of nothink in pertickler. Sum because it's allers bin the oustom, and sum, because sumboddy propoges it in hopes his turn will cum next.

Brown says the writing on 'em is allers axacly alike, so when they cums to be sold, the Porn Broker only has to take out the name, and then they does for sumboddy else! but Brown will allers say tuch sorecaustic things, Brown will. I remember when one of my Patrons had a Pianny Forty guv him, Brown whispered to me, they'd



HOME RULE.

Mrs. Common Councilman. "Why should ye be meddlin" with what ye don't understand, Mike? Shure, if it hadn't been for your dirty Politics, Me and the Gurls might be lookin' forward to Takin' the Flure with His Royal Highness, and ye might ha' been made a Bar'net, and I should ha' been My Lady!"

## READY!

READY! Not rashly courting fierce collision READY! Not rashly courting fierce collision
With whatsoever quarry cross the way;
Not looking forth with hate-ensanguined vision,
Like long-leashed war-dogs eager for the fray;
But steadfastly on guard, the watchful warders
Of a domain which honour bids them keep.
And fiercely, furtively toward whose borders
Sinister footsteps creep.

Creep as they long have crept, slow but untiring, With many a pause, but never a retreat. To what far object of the heart's desiring Tend those unechoing but unhalting feet?
What boots again to ask? Best calmly, mutely,
To take the sentinel's unshrinking stand,
Challenging, silently but resolutely,
The threatener of the land.

When side by side they stand, the stout old Lion And that swift supple Tiger of the East, Eyes glittering like the belt-stars of Orion, Who braves the pair should be a brawny beast. Ursine Colossus from the snow-wastes, truly You are a monster of amazing thews.

But must the Orient fight it out with Thule?

'Tis left for you to choose!

These make no menace, but, serene, united,
Under one eye, responsive to one hand,
Stand thus on guard, by growlings unaffrighted.
Consider, Brain, that united stand!
Trust not to love of peace, proneness to bungle;—
That may be conquered, this be soon set right.
They're ready, these twin monarchs of the jungle,
Faithful, and full of fight.

BRITANNIA stands between, regarding proudly
Their sinewy strength, their unity of pose,
Listening, alert. Should the war-drum throb loudly,
With what fleet force she'll launch them on her foes!
Not without need; not hatred hot and heady,
Not battle-fire or blood-thirst moves her mind;
But if wild war must wake, the watchword "Ready!"
Shall ring adown the wind.

## "QUESTION AND ANSWER."

(Improved extract from coming Parliamentary Report-latest model.)

Mr. Brown wished to know whether the Secretary of State for War could give any explanation of the fact that a whole British Army Corps had tumbled off a suspension bridge in the dark and totally disappeared.

The Marquis of Smartington. No, Sir, I cannot. (Hear, hear!) But I shall make inquiry, and I have no doubt it won't occur again.

But I shall make inquiry, and I have no doubt it won't occur again. (Hsar!)

Mr. Jones put a question as to the alleged turning bottom upwards in the Bay of Biscay of the whole of the Channel Fleet.

Sir Thomas Splasshey, in answer to the interrogatory of the Hon. Member, said that the Admiralty had received intimation of the manceuvre in question. (Hear, hear!) He had no doubt it was all right, and that the gallant Admiral in command knew his own business best. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. Robinson desired to know what explanation could be given by the Ordnance Department of the significant fact, that in both of the recent engagements on sea and land, every gun in our service had, as alleged, refused to go off at all and then burst.

Mr. Bland. None whatever. (Prolonged cheering.)

The House then adjourned.

Song for the Khedive .- " Always a Loan!"



READY!





## PORTRAIT OF A BANK CLERK ENJOYING A BANK HOLIDAY.

DEDICATED TO SIR JOHN LUBBOCK.

THE Country crammed—the Sea-side jammed— The Trains a crush—the River a rush— Oh, is it not a jolly day?
The Shops all shut—the Streets all smut—
No room in the Park for the poor Bank Clerk!
Not a Bank, but a Blank Holiday!

## "SAFE AS A BANK."

As in the face of the grave complications that appear to be looming as in the face of the grave complications that appear to be looming in the immediate future, some doubts have been expressed as to the nature and scope of the regulations for the proper safety and protection of the Suez Canal about to be proposed at the forthcoming Paris Congress, the following brief synopsis of some of the principal provisions of the Scheme will be read with interest. It is understood that in time of war—

(1) A were hand to present a proper worsel that having once natured the

raris Congress, the following brief synopsis or some of the principal provisions of the Scheme will be read with interest. It is understood that in time of war—

(1.) A merchant or passenger vessel that, having once entered the Canal, has been somehow blown up by mistake for a belligerent, can not recover its entrance fee in the local Egyptian County Court, unless accompanied by an International Solicitor and a battery or two of Horse Artillery.

(2.) Hostile Ironclads wishing to hire the Canal for the whole or a portion of the afternoon for the purpose of holding an engagement, must give notice to the Secretary, and enter their names in the Company's Fighting books kept for the purpose, not later than nine o'clock the same morning.

(3.) Passengers either going to or returning from India, and arriving at either end in the dark during the progress of a general action of not less than three hostile fleets on the waters of the Canal, at the same time, will have the privilege of walking along the banks, and, if they should desire it, of watching the progress of the devastation, as well as they can, on payment of a small extra fee for "gate money."

(4.) The right of Torpedo-planting for experimental purposes will be allowed, under certain restrictions, to all the leading Representatives of the International Commission; but, in the event of the practice causing any serious annoyance to unsuspecting Merchantmen in transitu, the Power at fault will be expected to make a suitable donation to the Pilot in charge, or, if there is nothing whatever left of him, to his duly appointed Executors.

(5.) This condonation will not be either required or exacted in the case of Turkish bottoms, that, by Article XIX. of the proposed provisions, may be "blown out, as occasion may render necessary, freely, and with perfect impunity."

There are a few other provisions dealing with the Shareholders' rights and liabilities in the not improbable event of the whole Canal, from end to end, having, as a precautionary military measure, to be

## A REAL MUSIC-HALL.

Philharmonic Concert at St. James's Hall. Thursday, March 26, Sir Arthur in the Chair. Herr Joachim at the Violin. Signor Bottesini at the Contrabasso. First night of new Serenade, written for this occasion by Mr. Thomas Wingham, and person-ally conducted by the Composer.

IL is quite a treat When in "ARTHUR's seat" Sits SULLIVAN, classical, Nothing here farcical, Which seems for him funny, Which seems for Aim fur Guiding a symphony Written by Schuman, Always so human. Music hath charms, Not this by Brahms; " JOACHIM plays it, So all must praise it. Music to bring 'em, Written by WINGHAM. New Serenade, First time 'twas played. Was it? Oh, yes, Thorough success; Plenty of toon, Plenty of toon, Oboë, bassoon. Wonderful things For flutes, horns and strings, And there are some Bangs on the drum,

(Sweet "Serenade To waken a maid!)
Then in E Flat Finish with that, Played by the fellows With violoncellos, And 'mid bravos It comes to a close—
"Short pedal tonic"—
At Philharmonic.
WINGHAM bows thrice, WINGHAM
All very nice.
Then BOTTESINI
Then BOTTESINI
Then Guite "beany," Comes up quite " | Wonderful fellar ! Plays Tarantella, Takes an encore, Plays it once more. Nod to Sir ARTHUR, Suffering marthyr, Up in his seat; We're on our feet. "Good-bye," laconic, To Philharmonic.

Concerto in D for violin with Orchestra Op. 77. 'ARRY says, " 'Hop' My! what a lot o' dance-music he's written!"

## BRILLIANT EGG-SAMPLES.

Christmas Cards are not so much the vogue as they were two years ago, Valentines



years ago, Valentines have almost vanished, and Twelfth Day has quite lost its character, or characters, but, instead, the Easter Egg is increasing year by year, and growing to an enormous size. A little enormous size. A little Boy, after a visit to Mr. CREMER'S, can teach his Grandmother the proverbial lesson with an egg. But what she may find will considerably surprise will considerably surprise her. The inventions are ineggs hau stible. The designs for the artistic productions of Mesers. SPARAGNAPAME'S (or Spare - no - pains) Hens have been thoroughly eggscogitated. True, in both cases—and in any amount of cases—the

Eggs are only "Shop Eggs;" but, with just here and there are exception, they are all quite fresh, and, where they are not absolutely new-laid, there is not an instance of one being bad.

## The Noble Four.

WAE never saw midst battle shooks, Two braver men than COLE and COX; Each Englishman of manly soul Tosses his cap for COX and COLE, Ditto for GAENER and for SWELL. We're glad to know them stout and well),

Punch drinks their health, and bids them know

That England's heart is all aglow

(Far, far beyond St. Stephen's lobbies)

With sympathy for four brave "Bobbies!"

Mrs. Ramsnotham says, she considers such a man as O'Donovam Rossa, the Dynamiter of a Vicious Cirole.

THE Athenoum speaks of Junius as "this ill-starred play." Sovere this on the Star.



HYPERBOLE!

Auctioneer 'selling Town Property'). "WHY, GENTLEMEN, THE VERY ATMOSPHERE'S WORTH THE MONEY!

## ESSENCE OF PARLIAMENT.

EXTRACTED FROM

THE DIARY OF TOBY, M.P.

House of Commons, Monday Night, March 23.—"You might have knocked me down with a feather," Ashmead Bartlett said when describing what happened at Eight o'Clock.

Member for Eye strolling into House to see if he'd dropped any Questions on the floor. House nearly empty, there being nothing more attractive than business going on. Seats Bill under discussion. Looked across the House, and there below the Gangway, in the corner-seat behind DILLWYN,

sion. Looked across the House, and there below the Gangway, in the corner-seat behind Dillwyn, sat the Prime Minister!

"It's come at last!" Ashmead gasped. "Six years ago, a young man, with an eyeglass, stood outside Palace Yard with sixpence in his pocket, and saw Gladstone go by. He said to himself, "I will live to drive him out of office." That young man was me, and I have done it. I thought I would send him in ordinary course to Front Bench opposite. But it seems he's so badly beaten that he throws up all hope of returning to power again, and has gone and joined the malecontents below the Gangway. Becomes a corner-man like Forster and Goschen. My time is at hand, and I shall not forget friends. Wolff shall certainly have either Berlin or Constantinople. Will go off and put down a Question on the subject for to-morrow."

Ashmead as usual got the wrong rat by the tail. Premier only gone to sit below Gangway in order to discuss with Richard Grosvenor probabilities of Division on Egyptian Convention. Still, it was odd and suggestive to see him there, with Dilke on Treasury Bench acting as Leader of House.

"What a time we should have, to be sure!" said Dillwys, "supposing W. E. G. really became a corner-man. How he'd make both sides sit up! For such a prospect I would give him up my seat."

up my seat.

STAFFORD NORTHCOTE moved Adjournment of House, in order to discuss arrangements for debating Egyptian Convention.

debating Egyptian Convention.

"Don't feel quite sure, Tobr," said Sir Stafford, thrusting his hands up his sleeve, "that I've done quite the right thing. They bothered me so about action on the Seats Bill, and soowl at me because I won't badger Gladstone every night on Afghan business, that I felt I must do something. But seem to have moved at the wrong time. We've had Ashmead Bartlett and O'Donwell discussing my Motion, and now we've got down to W. Redmond. I think if the House will permit me, I'll withdraw it. Which he did, and business commenced.

Business done.—Progress with Seats Bill.

Tuesday.—Henry the Tyler nowhere in the race at question time. Onslow pretty well in, and Wolff a good third. But Ashmead Bartlett still Eclipse. Got a little tumble from the Speaker to-night; put question to Hartington and received answer. Rose immediately, and put same question in slightly altered form. This too much for illimitable patience of Speaker. "The Hon. Member," he said sternly, "asks the noble Lord to answer a question he has just replied to."

Ashmead up again. Would like to argue this matter with the Speaker but the Right Hon. Gentleman not noticing him, ejaculates "Mr. Cropper!" Cropper comes up, puts matter-of-fact question about some Bill to be introduced in Lords, and Ashmead Bartlett temporarily extinguished.

"You came a Cropper there, old boy," said WOLFF, in sympathetic

boy, said woars, in symposium tones.

"Do you think so? Well, I don't see it in that light. Rather think I soored. If Spraker hadn't interposed, Harrington would either have answered the question or declined, and posed, HARTINGTON would either have answered the question or declined, and there an end on't. But Speaker.comes in, calls special attention to me, and in country Clubs they'll rattle their tankards and say, 'There's ASEMMEAD BARTLETT at 'em again. Gets HarTINGTON in a corner. Speaker obliged to come up to help him. What's yer Stafford Northcotes and even your RANDOLPH CHURCHILLS to him, not to mention' (excuse the reference) 'your WOLFFERER, He's the man for my money, and I'll have another pint to drink his health.' I'm not quite such a fool as I look."
"I'm glad of that," said WOLFF, in fine sarcastic tones. Doesn't altogether like the airs ASEMMEAD gives himself since Conservative Party have begun to cheer him.

himself since Conservative Party have begun to cheer him. Seats Bill again in Committee. Windbag Sexron having charge of an Amendment giving Dublin extra Member, talks full hour by West-minster Clook. Committee impatient. minster Clook. Committee impatient.
DILKE smiling with increased serenity
as bad quarters of hour succeed each
other. The case for Dublin a good
one if well handled. Said that Radicals going to vote for it. But Sexron
talks them clean out of House, and
when at end of three hours' debate
division taken, Parnellites left to
themselves to wote for Motion

themselves to vote for Motion.

Business done.—Progress with the Seats Bill.

Seats Bill.

Wednesday.—Grinding away at the Seats Bill. Made fair progress up to Four o'Clock, when Windbag Sexton having, in the interval, been freshly inflated, re-appeared, and raised again question of representation of Dublin, which had occupied Committee for three hours on previous night; now appropriated remainder of the sitting; promises to come up fresh again after Easter recess.

Speaker of Purfleet House of Commons in Distinguished Strangers' Gallery. Honoured Mr. Peel by sending for him, whilst Sexton windbagging.

Gallery. Honoured Mr. Peel by sending for him, whilst Sexton windbagging.

"Thought you had this question talked to death in Committee yesterday?" said the Purfleet Personage. "How is it possible that it can come on again to-day, blocking public business? Is it in order?"

"Quite," said our Speaker, meekly. "Am not sure whether ingenuity of Irish Members may not find another opportunity of redelivering their Speeches even in Committee. Certainly they'll do so on Report."

"And yet," said the P. P., sternly regarding the trembling Speaker, "you call yourselves a business assembly, and have charge of Imperial interests. Come down to Purfleet, and see how we manage things there."

"Thank you—I will," said the Speaker, getting back just in time to resume the Chair, and run through Orders of the Day.

Business done.—Scarcely any.

Business done .- Scarcely any.

## INTERIORS AND EXTERIORS. No. 6.



## A CHESS DIVAN IN THE STRAND.

Thursday.—Just after prayers met Harcourt in Corridor, amiling softly to himself; evidently beaming with some fresh delight.

"Been snubbing somebody?" I asked, pleasantly, curious to know why he should look so glad he was alive.

"No, Toby, quite the contrary. I've been doing the heavy father business with the gallant Policemen who grappled with the dynamite in the crypt the other week. Quite a theatrical business. I stood myself where the other explosive had been placed. Gladstow, I stood myself where the other explosive had been placed. Gladstow, I stood myself where the other explosive had been placed. Gladstow, I stood myself where the other explosive had been placed. Gladstow, I stood myself where the other explosive had been placed. Gladstow, I stood myself where and Shell, shot by Shoreditch burglars, to appear. Wanted CHAMBERLAIN, P.C., shot at Islington; but Doctors wouldn't let him come. Always meddling, those Doctors. When everything ready, Curtain drew up, me discovered standing between the gallant Policemen with a hand on shoulder of each. Made 'em a fine speech; solemnly shook hands with them. Then pinned Albert Medal on Cole's breast, reminding everyone, I'm sure, of Napoleon The First decorating soldier on the field of battle. Shook hands with Sergeants again, made them another little speech. Shook hands with 'em once more. They like it. Made speech to Police generally, and crowd; shook hands with Inspector Germon, would have shaken hands all round, but time pressing. You should have heard them give three cheers for Home Secretarr. Egad, Toby! when I walked away, after shaking hands with Gladstown, wend have shaken hands all round, but time pressing. They raise a man's estimate of himself, and suffuse his mind with a genial glow. Shake hands, Toby."

I was much affected. I watched the Majestic Figure as it moved down the corridor. As it passed the Policeman stationed at corner, it stopped and shook hands with him.

House of Commons engaged on fresh Vote of Censure. Gladestone moves Resolution approving Egyptian Convention. BRUCE moves rejection. Having heard both speeches, Members go away to think them over, leaving House empty for rest of night.

Speech of the evening made by Ackers, new Member for West Gloncestershire. Delightful for its ponderous simplicity, and its unaffected belief that West Gloncester is the Premier Constituency of the country, for whose decision at recent election Europe held its breath.

breath.
"I fancy," said FARRER HERSCHELL, "we've gained a great Ackeration in the Member for West Gloucestershire."

Business done .- Egyptian Convention submitted.

Saturday, 2 A.M.—Division just taken place on Convention. Might have come off hour ago only for CHILDERS. Got up at One o'Clock to "say few words." Wasn't finally howled down till quarter to Two. "Thought CHILDERS a man of sense," says GEORGE ELLIOT. "But the vanity of speechmaking too much for him."

Business done.—Convention approved by 294 votes against 246.

## Summary of Boat-Race.

CAMBRIDGE lost, and Oxford won; So till 'Eighty-Six 'tis done. Londoners are asking whether They could lose it altogether.

## A VOLUNTEER COLUMN.

Formed by Dumb-Crambo Junior.



A Fatigue Party



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Counter-marching.



Detraining.



A Line of Outposts.

Forming Columns.

"CAB, SIR!"—Mr. Punch begs to acknowledge the generous responses to his appeal for something over and above the reward which was handed to the Cabman disabled in pluckily dispatching a Mad Newfoundland Deg. The Donations will be duly forwarded to the Magistrate at the Westminster Police Court.

## THEY CAN'T GET ALONG WITHOUT ME!

The Song of the Sultan,

The Song of the Sultan.

AHA! After all they 've so long said about me—
The Infidel Dogs!—they're beginning to find
That, as dear HOBART \* told 'em, they can't do without me,
'Tis I must be pulling the strings from behind.
Oho! It's delightful. Their rage must be frightful,
Especially old Bag-and-baggage's! Bah!
Though Who may look spiteful, my claim is so rightful
They cannot dispense with their old Padishah!
No! no! it's no use don't you see,
Their Policy's fiddlededee!
However they struggle,
Or jockey and juggle,
They can't get along without Me!

They do like me to act as a sort of Bum-Bailiff!
Ha! ha! we shall see, Dogs! But one thing is plain,
They 're certain to fail if they turn up the Caliph,
And that's why they 're all sneaking round me again.
Me both have their eye on, the Bear and the Lion,
Though one of 'em thrashed me, the other betrayed.
A nice little sort of a caper to try on
The Prince of the Faithful! But there, who 's afraid?
It fills me with holiest glee
The Infidel's wrigglings to see.
No safe course they 've hit on
For Russian or Briton.
They can't get along without Me!

They can't get along without Me !

They couted us, flouted us, couldn't endure us,
But now, when they feel betwirt hammer and anvil,
They'd gladly secure us, and artful MUSURUS
Is closeted daily with GLADSTONE and GRANVILLE.
To checkmate the Cossaok, and smash up the MAHDI,
My help would be handy. By Allah, it's fun!
Sweet, sweet as the music of HAPIZ or SAADI
The whine of each Infidel son of a gun.
They are left in a hole, don't you see?
To ignore me were fain to agree,
But all in a minute
They find I'm still in it.
They can't get along without Me!

They can't get along without Me?

The sons of burnt fathers! no more can they shirk

That question, so each of them furtively glances

To him the dogs called the Unspeakable Turk!

Unspeakable? Yah! By the beard of the Prophet,

They'll have to eat dirt, or their words,—much the same!

My course? Well, I wish I could send 'em to Tophet;

But, failing that joy, I shall play my own game.

At any rate, all men can see

I've scored off old W. G.,

Who finds—oh! it's funny!—

Spite ships, men and money,

He can't get along without Me?

See Hobert Pasha's letter to the Times, February 3, 1885, in which he declares that nothing can be done without "a friendly accord between England and Turkey."

## PROBABLE FUTURE OF THE WORKING-CLASSES.

(Not a Chapter from Mr. Mill's " Political Economy.")

Not a Chapter from Mr. Mill's "Political Economy.")

So the premium required from a candidate for the coveted post of Dock Labourer has been raised to a fourth part of his daily wages! I learn that the agents who arrived in the East-End with the object of taking advantage of the depressed condition of labour by purchasing a few thousand English families for the Central African slave-market, were "received with the greatest enthusiasm."

What consolation it must inspire into the breasts of the workless, to know that the remedy which chiefly commended itself to the important meeting held last week in Southwark, was—an Amalgamation of the twenty-five different Emigration Agencies in London!

Possibly some of the out-of-workers in Southwark, "who were presented with a packet of tobacco apiece as they left the room, at which they seemed much pleased," would have been even more grateful for tickets for themselves and families to New South Wales, and a promise of employment when they got there.

In the midst of all this poverty, it is at all events satisfactory to know that the School-Board rate still stands at two-and-sixpence in the pound, and that the number of girls who pass the First Standard in Arabic Hieroglyphics, and are then transferred to the County Asylum, is steadily increasing.





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PRIZE MEDAL, International Health Exhibition, South Kenzington, 1884.

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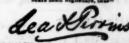
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